

Idaho Immunization Assessment Board
Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 15, 2013
Department of Insurance

Board Members Present:

- Jack Myers – Blue Cross of Idaho –Chair
- Ted Epperly, M.D. – Family Practice Residency – Vice Chair
- Bill Deal – Director, Department of Insurance
- Richard Rainey, M.D. – Regence BlueShield of Idaho
- Tim Callender – AmeriBen/IEC Group
- Christine Hahn, M.D. – Department of Health & Welfare
- Chris Pickford – Boise School District
- Susan Rhoades – Jacksons Food Stores

Board Members Absent:

- Sen. Todd Lakey – Idaho Senate
- Rep. Jeff Thompson – Idaho House of Representatives

Others Present:

- Mitch Scoggins - Immunization Program Manager- DHW
- Tamarie Olson – DHW
- Sandy Metro – DOI
- Scott Frost - DOI
- Kathy McGill – DOI
- Kurt Stembridge - GlaxoSmithKline

Call to Order: Chairman Myers called the meeting to order at 3:06 PM MDT.

Approval of Minutes from 4/5/13 meeting

Chair Myers asked for a motion to approve minutes. Dr. Richard Rainey moved the motion.
Dr. Ted Epperly seconded motion. Motion was passed on a voice vote.

Introduction of new administrator – Elaine Diner

Director Bill Deal introduced Elaine Diner as the new administrator for the Idaho Immunization Assessment Board. Elaine has over 30 years of insurance experience in marketing and underwriting for private companies and the Idaho State Insurance Fund. Dr. Christine Hahn asked to have Elaine's contract mailed to board members so they could see the final terms of the agreement. Sandy Metro will send out a copy to the board members.

Reports:

DOI update of surveys:

Sandy Metro presented the 7/15/13 Idaho Immunization Assessment Board Report. Three of the five past due balances have been paid. Still outstanding are balances from United Fire Insurance Co. and Meritain. Both of these payments are expected by the end of July. Washington State Department of Health has a negotiated payment in lieu of an assessment (Memo of Understanding signed with WA - DOH) which has been signed by all parties.

Mitch Scoggins gave a brief review of how the WA payment is calculated.

Sandy Metro asked if the board members would like a copy of the MOU with Washington State. Sandy Metro will email a copy to the board members.

Dr. Ted Epperly commented that he is impressed with our collection rate (over 90%). Jack Myers said that this speaks well of the program. Sandy Metro pointed out that the biggest issue is that the contact person was not the person who replied to the survey. The assessment is sent to the contact person. We had many changes this year. The current health survey list

was used to identify carriers for the assessment so there were a few new carriers that were surveyed that had not been surveyed in the past.

Dr. Rainey suggested that when the surveys are sent out next year we should ask the contact person to notify the Financial Accounting Group (Accounts Payable) that the survey number is the basis for the assessment and changes will alter the assessment due. Also: Provide more information about the Immunization Assessment Program when the surveys are sent out.

Sandy Metro said that the Revision report is not complete at this time. When it is complete it will be sent to the board members.

Financial Update from DHW

Tamarie Olson presented the Dedicated immunization Vaccine Fund SFY 2013 (July 15, 2013) report and the SFY 2014 (July 15, 2013) report. It was anticipated that the fiscal year-end 2013 report would show a balance of approximately \$2 million; the actual balance was slightly over \$2.5 million, which is the carry-forward balance for the 2014 report. The balance of the vaccine fund as of July 12, 2013 is \$11,671,342. Tamarie also presented a comparison report (Vaccine Distribution) showing the types of immunizations for each fiscal year 2011, 2012 and 2013 and the percentage changes with and without the influenza vaccine. In response to a question from Dr. Rainey, Tamarie said all vaccines regardless of funding were included in the list. Tamarie also noted that in 2011 and 2012 there were changes to the school and childcare rules for types of vaccines to be provided (e.g. TDaP and Meningococcal) so there was a “catch-up” period. Now the rates for those types of vaccines are leveling off.

Old Business

Dr. Hahn said that the rate of vaccination for HPV will be available in late August or early September, so a comparison (girls only) will be done at that time. The rate of vaccination for boys has been very small so far.

Dr. Epperly pointed out that this past year the rate of influenza has been high because the assessment included it. In the past years there was either no assessment money available (first year) or VFC funds were used (second year).

Dr. Epperly asked about the general rate of vaccinations in Idaho. Dr. Hahn said that we will have more information in September. With the new immunization registry we will be able to have a better comparison in the future.

Dr. Hahn said that we are not seeing providers dropping out of the program and we are guaranteeing access for kids.

Jack Myers asked if there were any new vaccines being recommended or required. Dr. Hahn said that there is consideration for routine infant meningococcal vaccine, and if it is approved it will be expensive. However at this time there is still a question of whether or not this is cost-effective for other than high-risk individuals.

Dr. Epperly asked if there was a new Pertussis vaccine. Dr. Hahn said that she is on the Pertussis working group. There are big studies giving evidence to recommend modifying the protocol for booster shots (second or third TDaP shots), but due to the cost effectiveness question there is no new pertussis vaccine in the pipeline right now.

Dr. Epperly then asked for an update on the TRICARE non-participation in the Assessment Fund. (TRICARE is not allowed to pay directly to third parties). Dr. Hahn said that there are some signs that things are improving. The state legislature has told H&W that they can ask for money year by year. One solution might be that TRICARE pays directly to the CDC for states that do immunization assessments.

New Business

In response to a question from Chair Myers, no one was aware of any new legislation planned for this coming year.

Chair Myers said that the next issue will be the preparation of the survey and accompanying information sheet. Jack Myers asked that the info sheet be updated and sent to the board members for review in early December.

Elaine Diner will work with Sandy Metro to do the update.

Dr. Epperly reported that some of the self-funded groups have expressed some concerns and that we should be pro-active to meet those concerns. Dr. Hahn said that IMA is doing this through their lobbyist, Ken McClure. We should coordinate our efforts through him. Tim Callender said that he is getting numbers pulled on his plans and that should help the discussions; there are cost savings that can be demonstrated. Sandy Metro added that for the self-funded groups sometimes the group itself pays the assessment and sometimes the TPA pays.

Dr. Hahn asked if, under ACA, the self-funded groups have to provide preventative care. Tim Callender said that they do, unless it is a grandfathered plan.

Guest Kurt Stembridge added that doing outreach to the self-funded groups would be beneficial because some of them do not fully understand the benefits of the IIAB.

Dr. Hahn and Dr. Epperly will met with Ken McClure to see what more outreach work can be done, especially to the self-funded groups. Chair Myers suggested that meetings be set up with large employer (self-funded) groups using the analysis from Blue Cross, AmeriBen and Regence data. Spring might be a good time to do this.

Dr. Rainey requested that the insert that goes with the survey be updated to show cost advantages and possibly improved immunization rates.

Dr. Epperly asked how our assessment rate compared to other states' rates. Mitch Scroggins said that currently only 8 states do assessments. Washington's process cannot be compared to Idaho's because the assessment is done after the fact. The assessment in Massachusetts includes more than just immunizations. Maine has the most comparable assessment program: it is done monthly and is approximately \$83 per child. Maine also has a 4-5% higher immunization rate. Dr. Rainey stated that New Hampshire used to have a program; Mitch said that he would look into that one. Mitch said that Alaska was considering an immunization assessment program.

Next meeting

Proposed date/time for next Board meeting is the first week of December 2013.

In early November, Elaine Diner will set up exact date, time and location, then email board members.

Issues:

1. Reports
2. Review Survey Information Sheet
3. Outreach Program for large employers
4. H & W September reports; impact on health of the State; immunization rates

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:09 PM MDT.

Minutes by Elaine Diner, Administrator, Idaho Immunization Assessment Board